

- AI 9/1/2002  
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43. Apparatus for controlling rates of concurrent digital transmissions, comprising:  
a memory having defined therein a queue having a plurality of locations; and  
a controller including:
- means, for each transmission, for writing an index corresponding to a data cell of the transmission at one of the locations in the queue;
  - means for successively accessing the locations of the queue at a rate corresponding to a cell transmission rate;
  - means, if the accessed location in the queue contains an index, for transmitting the corresponding data cell, for freeing the location, and for rewriting the index at a location in the queue that is distant from the accessed location by a value determined by the rate of the corresponding transmission;
  - means for writing a ghost index into at least one of the locations in the queue; and
  - means, if the accessed location in the queue contains a ghost index, for freeing the accessed location and for rewriting the ghost index in the queue at a random distance from the accessed location.
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### REMARKS

Claims 19-43 have been added to provide more complete claim coverage of the present invention. No new matter has been added.

The application is now ready for examination on the merits. If there are questions regarding this amendment, please contact Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,  
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